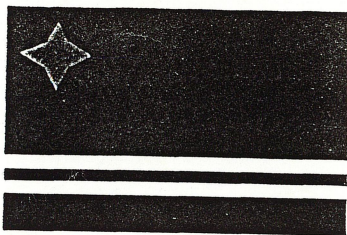


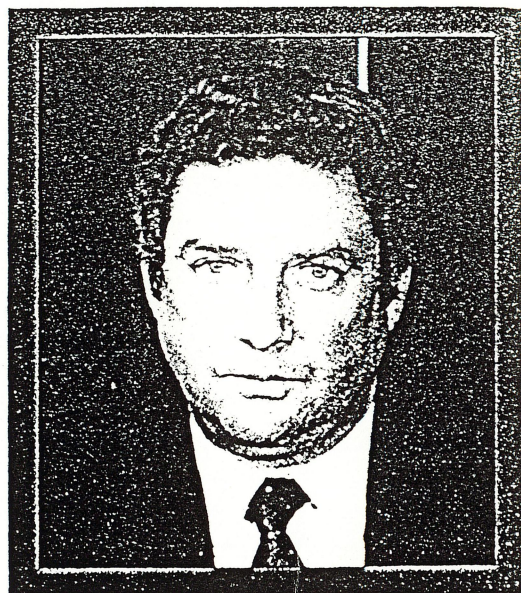
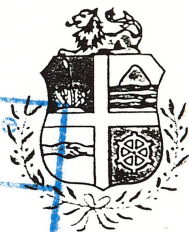
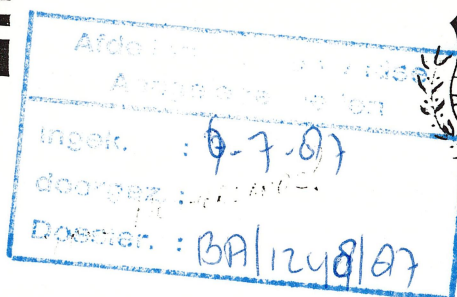
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ARUBA



van.
Dw. Ecoza.



A Message from the Prime Minister

The island of Aruba is located in the southeast Caribbean, some 1200 miles from Miami. Well located in terms of major trade routes, we are grateful to be endowed with a versatile population and to count amongst our physical attributes beautiful white sand beaches, natural harbours capable of handling the largest tanker, freight and cruise ships, and a climate completely devoid of weather extremities.

The island is administrated by a model Western democracy made up of a single house of Parliament and a Council of Ministers chosen by the elected Parliament members. In addition to these legislative and executive bodies, our judicial system is founded upon and follows the Dutch law prevalent throughout the Kingdom of Holland. Principles such as cassation, provide additional insurance for legal security and promote a climate of confidence and stability.

Through the end of 1985, Aruba was a member of a six-island constellation known as the Netherlands Antilles. This constellation, together with Holland, made up the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

On January 1, 1986 Aruba attained separate status (Status Aparte) within the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Our Status Aparte has placed us in an autonomous position in determining our social and economic future vis-à-vis the other partners of the Kingdom. As a result of our Status Aparte, the Kingdom of the Netherlands now has a partnership

consisting of Holland, the Netherlands Antilles (now five islands), and Aruba.

My Government is a healthy and co-operative coalition dedicated to, and concentrating on, economic development of our island. We do this with the full knowledge that in a society structured on free enterprise and democracy, economic development is the domain of the private sector. Thus, the role of government is clearly defined. We must provide competitive incentives, establish and maintain workable guidelines, and minimize the bureaucracy required to establish and maintain private enterprise.

An administration responsible for and devoted to the health, education, social, cultural, and economic future of its constituents represents an excellent "partner in progress" for any able entrepreneur.

We have shown as our policy a willingness to work with other governments and a spirit of co-operation encouraging both local and foreign investors. Among incentives for your consideration are tax holidays, executive and managerial permits, profit repatriation, and most importantly, open-minded flexibility which permits us (and you) to examine any and all opportunities.

In addition to this healthy business climate, our people also represent something unique in our region, or for that matter almost anywhere. Illiteracy, for all practical purposes, does not exist. Most people speak, read and write two, three, or four languages.

Dutch is the island's official language. The local language is Papiamentu. English is widely used because of our tourist trade and other industries. Our location causes Spanish to be widely spoken as well. This mix of language and culture makes our island cosmopolitan in nature and provides a diverse labour force ranging from manual to high-tech with adaptability at almost every level.

Our infrastructural developments are also of interest to foreign investors. Aruba has a very modern road and highway system, a modern telephone and communications system, a private and well-run energy distribution system, excellent schools and hospitals, and a newly constructed modern container harbour in the capital city of Oranjestad.

We will with all certainty develop our economic future. "Partners" in this progress, as well as access to foreign corporations and financial houses, are an equally certain requirement. We therefore welcome you to explore with us the mutually beneficial opportunities that lie ahead.


J. H. A. Ertan
Prime Minister